

CONCERNING A CALIFORNIAN CONVULVULUS

LILY M. PERRY

CONVOLVULUS **simulans**, nom. nov. *Breweria minima* Gray, Proc. Am. Acad. xvii. 228 (1882). *Convolvulus pentapetaloides* Gray, Syn. Fl. N. Am. ii². 436 (1886), not L. Syst. Nat. ed. 12, iii. 229 (1768). Not *C. minimus* Aubl. (1775) nor Vitm. (1789).

Dr. Gray, receiving the American plant from Lower California, first described it as a new species of *Breweria*, but later (Syn. Fl. l. c.), probably on account of its close resemblance to the plates of the Mediterranean *Convolvulus pantapetaloides* (Cav. Ic. ii. 29, t. 123; Sibth. Fl. Graeca, t. 197), he identified it with the Mediterranean species and treated it as naturalized from southern Europe.

Although there is no doubt of the similarity between these species in general, they differ in rather significant details which seem to have been overlooked up to the present time. These differences, chiefly in floral characters, appear to be sufficiently constant to justify the separation of the Californian and Lower Californian material as a species; and since the specific name *Convolvulus minimus* is already pre-empted, the name *C. simulans* is here proposed. The following is a summary of the contrasting characters of the two and will perhaps be helpful in distinguishing these entities:

Bracts minute (1-2 mm. long), glabrous and scarious: calyx glabrous; sepals uniform, broadly ovate, with wide scarious margins, apiculate: corolla (in bud) densely pubescent; lobes obtusish, with salient acuminate angles.....	<i>C. pentapetaloides.</i>
Bracts larger (3-4, often to 9 mm. long), pubescent and foliaceous: calyx pubescent; sepals dimorphic, the two outer narrowly oblong, herbaceous, the three inner much broader, oblong-obovate and inconspicuously apiculate, with narrow scarious margins: corolla (in bud) scarcely if at all pubescent; lobes subovate, obtuse.....	<i>C. simulans.</i>

Convolvulus simulans is apparently indigenous to western North America and ranges near the coast from the vicinity of San Francisco Bay southward into northern Lower California. It has been collected most frequently south of Point Conception. The specimens in the Gray Herbarium are as follows:

CALIFORNIA: Antioch, June, 1884, *Mrs. Curran*; Cholame, San Luis Obispo Co., June, 1887, *Lemmon*, no. 4618; Estrella, San Luis Obispo Co., May, 1885, *Jared*; Santa Barbara, 1879, *Mrs. Cooper*; San Diego, May 1, 1902, *Brandege*, no. 1665; below San Diego, 1882, *Jones*; Sweetwater Hills, San Diego Co., May 9, 1884, *Orcutt*; La Jolla, April 13, 1914, *Clements*, no. 86.

LOWER CALIFORNIA: hills, 1882, *Pringle*; 1882, *Jones, Parry, Pringle* (TYPE of *Breweria minima*).

The writer is indebted to Mr. Rimo Bacigalupi for comparing the Californian material with the type of *Convolvulus pentapetaloides* in the Linnean collection at Burlington House, London.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

MEESEA TRIQUETRA¹

WILLIAM CAMPBELL STEERE

(Plate 205)

ABOUT twelve miles north of Ann Arbor lies a small post-glacial pond known as Mud Lake. The margins have long since been encroached upon by various aquatic plants, so that now only a very limited area of open water remains, which is completely surrounded by a floating mat of cat-tails and sedges. This zone is surrounded in turn by a dense swamp of tamaracks and spruces growing out of the wet, Sphagnum-covered floor. The general region is probably the richest in bryophytes of any in the immediate vicinity of the University of Michigan. Pennington (1) has published a detailed ecological description of this interesting area.

It was while wading about on the firmer parts of the undulating mat that the writer had the good fortune to run across a fine clump of *Meesea triquetra* (L.) Ångstr. (*Meesea tristicha* B. & S.) with mature sporophytes. This is the second locality in Michigan from which this uncommon species has been recorded, Nichols (2) having reported it from Cheboygan County. It is apparently a circumboreal species, since it has been reported from widely separated stations in Europe, Asia and the northern part of this continent.

Because of the unique and characteristic appearance of this beautiful moss, it is very easily recognized in the field and will hardly be confused with any other species, once it has been determined. Nevertheless, it is rather puzzling to one who has never seen the plant before, for although it is readily identified by the keys in the current manuals, most of the descriptions are so unsatisfactory that one does not feel secure until he has confirmed his determination by comparison with herbarium material.

¹ Paper from the Department of Botany, University of Michigan.